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A Lazy Man's 23rd Psalm

Society is my shepherd; I shall not work
It alloweth me to lie down on a feather bed,
It leadeth me beside the still factories,
It destroyeth my ambition,
It leadeth me in the paths of a goldbrick for politics sake
Yea, though I walk through the valley of inflation and deficit spending
I will fear no evil, for the welfare agencies are with me
Their generosity and their staff they comfort me
They prepareth the requisitions that filleth my table
By mortgaging the earnings of my grandchildren
My head is filled with mirth
That my cup runneth over without effort
Surely, the taxpayers shall care for me all the days of my life
And I shall dwell in the house of a parasite forever.

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VIRGINIA TRUCKER/October, 1972

FATHER DARKLEAF

Cont'd from Page 1

the legend was expanded into our modern Santa Claus, perhaps starting in Dutch settled New York where it was "Sinterklaes." The great writer Washington Irving developed the legend, but the hero was Clement C. Moore, an Episcopal clergyman in New York City and the son of a Bishop of the Church, who in 1822 wrote a famous poem. He wrote it for his children and he introduced the famous Reindeer and "The Night Before Christmas" remains an all-time classic. In 1863 the great artist Thomas Nast circulated Christmas pictures of Santa in Harper's Weekly and in 1891 President Benjamin Harrison dressed up in red to become the first White House Santa Claus. He said: "If my influence goes for aught in this busy world, I hope that my example will be followed in every family in the land."

* * *

And so began the modern Santa Claus story. Some think it has been too much commercialized, but who am I to say? I would humbly suggest that Christ be featured above all and with sincere thanks to everyone, I wish a Merry, Merry Christmas!

* * *

Be sure to read ALL the fine Greeting Messages in this issue and let us one and all have the best holiday ever!

Economic Stabilization Program

Q. – I received a 20 percent increase in my Social Security payment on Oct. 2. Is my landlord now allowed to raise my rent based on my increased Social Security payment?

A – No. The Cost of Living Council has developed a special program called "Rent Watch" to help prevent excessive and unjustified rent increases. The program is designed to prevent illegal rent increases from cutting into additional Social Security payments which go to the elderly, the handicapped, widows and children. The "Rent Watch" consists of an audit of housing for older persons; a special rent complaint service for Social Security recipients and increased authority for the Internal Revenue Service to administer rent control regulations and levy financial penalties on violators.

Q – If I complain to the IRS about a rent increase, what's to stop my landlord from evicting me?

A – Quite a lot. The regulations specifically forbid any retaliatory action, such as harassment or eviction, by a landlord against a tenant who exercises his rights under the regulations. Landlords who attempt to retaliate face possible prosecution and fines up to $5000 for each offense. In addition, IRS has new powers to impose administrative sanctions—refunds to tenants, rent rollbacks and penalties of double the overcharged rent. Anyone who feels he is the victim of retaliation because he questioned or complained about a rent increase should notify the IRS immediately.

Q – If I don't think an increase is fair, or I want more information about it, what can I do?

A – Ask the landlord to show proof of increased costs or capital improvements being used as the basis for a rent increase. If you still don't feel the increase is proper, meet with the landlord and ask him to explain the increase. If the explanation does not satisfy you, write a statement indicating why you feel the landlord is in violation and submit it, together with your rent increase notice, to the Internal Revenue Service.

Q – How can I file a complaint with the IRS?

A – Gather all the written material you can relating to your problem. If you are coming in, telephone, or send a letter, be sure to have the material on hand. Be sure to identify yourself as a Social Security recipient so that your case can be red-flagged for priority treatment.

Yule Lives In Legend

Twinkling on trees, glowing from windows, glittering everywhere, Christmas lights reflect, today, the candles of an earlier time.

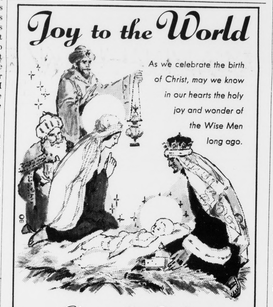
A candle in the window can light the Christ Child on his way, says Irish legend.

Nativity scenes in homes and churches depict the animals of the Manger—and on Christmas Eve, the cattle, the sheep and all the animals present at the Nativity are given the gift of speech.

So says the lore of Christmas.

The legend and lore of Christmas expresses the simple faith that lies at the heart of this happy, holy time.

Joy to the World



As we celebrate the birth of Christ, may we know in our hearts the holy joy and wonder of the Wise Men long ago.

Shapes & Styles
Main Street — Appomattox, Va.

Thank you for your patronage.
W. FRANK MOORE
BULLDOZER & TRUCKING SERVICE
APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

The Pastor Speaks

MOUNTAIN MOVING FAITH

Victory is the will of God for you and faith is a means of the victory. If you are not a Christian you can have victory through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ by repentance and believing that Christ died for you and receiving him by faith into your life.

Matthew 19:26b says, "But with God all things are possible." Mark 9:23b says "All things are possible to him that believeth." Releasing the abilities of God is a result of faith. The outcome is awesome and astounding, but if this is to be done the process of faith must be right. Faith is the eyes through which we see and act upon what we see. Faith leads us to see the whole picture. Abraham was able to see the day of Jesus and he saw it and was glad (John 8:56). How did he see the day of Jesus? He certainly did not see it with his senses. He saw it with his faith! Thus, later on when the Lord told him to go and sacrifice Isaac, Abraham had no argument. He knew full well that God would give him a sacrifice. HE WAS NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROVISION OF THE RAM FOR THAT SACRIFICE. HE HAD ALREADY SEEN THE LAMB THE SON OF GOD, sacrificed in eternity. That is faith! He saw and he rejoiced in what he saw. He believed it.

Would you be free from the prison of your senses, feelings, and frustrations? Then, refuse to believe them and choose to believe God no matter what the circumstances may reveal.

It is also important to confess what you believe. Faith never rises above its confession. You can think faith all day long, but until faith takes on the form of confession, nothing will happen. Heaven and all its resources are made available NOW when the word of faith is spoken. All is ready, believe! Believe that he has done it and we have the answer. Faith cometh by hearing (Romans 10:17). Now that you have heard, believe and receive.

Richard C. Brackin
Liberty Baptist Church
Appomattox, Virginia

Special Ingredients for Living

Enough happiness to keep you sweet
Enough trials to keep you strong
Enough sorrows to keep you human
Enough hope to keep you happy
Enough failure to keep you humble
Enough success to keep you eager
Enough friends to give you comfort
Enough wealth to meet your needs
Enough enthusiasm to look forward
Enough faith to banish depression–
Enough determination to make each day a better day than yesterday.

SUPPORT YOUR RESCUE SQUAD

The Sunday School Lesson

HERBERT C. BRADSHAW
P. O. Box 1833
Durham, N. C. 27702

Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for December 24, 1972

THE PROMISED MESSIAH

Scripture Jeremiah 23:5-6; 33:14-16; Matt. 21:12

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people. Luke 1:68

In the dark days when Judah was a vassal state to the more powerful kingdoms of Assyria, Egypt, and Babylonia, when the land was overrun by conquering armies and the capital city of Jerusalem was under fearful siege, when the immediate outlook seemed hopeless, the remnant faithful to God nourished the hope, born of confidence in the Divine mercy and promises, that at some time in the future God would again deliver and redeem His people, as He had done when they were slaves in Egypt. It was this hope which sustained them in the most difficult of times and in the severe tribulation they experienced.

So, in a prophetic message which blended judgment and hope, Jeremiah declared the punishment of God upon the rulers for their evil and promised eventual deliverance in one of the most tender and inspiring Messianic prophecies (Jeremiah 23:1-6). The imagery is that of negligent shepherds "who have scattered my flock, who have driven them away, and . . . have not attended to them." These negligent shepherds, who had failed to measure up to their responsibilities, may have been the kings of Judah who had failed in their obligations to both their God and their people, as some think, or the obstinate princes who dominated the government under the weak Zedekiah, as others say, or, perhaps more likely, all of these who led Judah down the wrong road.

This would not be the end, however, for God would gather again the remnant of the scattered flock and bring them back to the fold, and He would raise up for them faithful shepherds "who will care for them, and they shall fear no more . . ." This promise of deliverance continued in the promise of a righteous King from another line of David's descendants, in whose "days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely," a King whose name would be "The Lord is our righteousness."

The name Zedekiah means "The Lord is our righteousness", but the King to come who would bear the name would exemplify in His rule the true significance of its meaning, in contrast to the king who was then on the thron of Judah, whose life and rule failed miserably to measure up to the meaning of his name. The future King would "deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land," and would bring salvation and security. David's line of which Zedekiah was the representative had failed the people of David's land, and it was necessary to have "a righteous Branch" in another line from Israel's greatest king to redeem the people.

God's long preparation of the world for the coming of the Savior was in progress in Jeremiah's day. To a people in despair, God's prophet was mingling the certainty of judgment with the promise of redemption. To the fulfillment of this promise the people looked in hope through the desolation of captivity, the loneliness of exile, the backbreaking work of reconstruction, devastation by armies and desecration of their sanctuary, persecution and oppression.

In a dark hour, when the people of the land were paying heavy taxes to Rome and Roman legionaries garrisoned the cities, the light broke: God "visited and redeemed His people"; a Baby was born in a stable and was cradled in a manger; His birth was announced to amazed shepherds by a personal messenger from God and a heavenly choir; sages came from the East to pay homage at His cradle and to offer rich gifts, saints waiting in the Temple rejoiced at His presentation there, the arrival of the Lord's Anointed One, The prophecies of great David's greater Son had come to pass; deliverance from the weightiest bondage man knows, the yoke of sin, was at hand.

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WANT ADS GET RESULTS

Greetings

Holiday time is aglow, in the hearts of young and old. Add to its warmth our bright "thank you."

Cole's Dairy
APPOMATTOX, VA.

FREE
IT'S
Lynchburg Federa
SILVER DOLLAR TI

A Year-Round Gift!
A Collectors Item!
A Lucky Piece!

ADD TO or OPEN an Account for $200.00 or mor
and get your shiny , neatly packaged silver dollar
(not Eisenhower) absolutely FREE

Watch your deposit grow at TOP AREA INTEREST Rate

Regulations permit one Silver Dollar per account

LYNCHBURG FEDERAL
SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

ACCOUNTS INSURED
5 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

MILLER PARK
1990 Forest Avenue
Lynchburg, Virginia

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA
158 South Main Street

BROOKVILLE, VIRGINIA
7114 Timberlake Road

ALTAVISTA, VIRGINIA
613 Pittsylvania Avenue

Promotes Informal Classroom Instruction

...ctures in the above picture allow ...s to become involved in the ...Experience Approach in Education technique to learning personalizes ...by encouraging students to write ...ir stories. Fifth year students at ...Bluff Intermediate School are ...g creative writing and diaroma ...in which are inspired by the art learning center Mrs. Hale, teacher of these fifth year students says. "This learning technique improves and enhances the verbal and written abilities of our pupils." The teacher aide, Mrs. Betty Rhodenizer, has been of great assistance in creating such leisure areas as pictured in this informal classroom where children can relax and learn with interest.

...mes Seal ...ign Lagging

...e Christmas Seal ...h which opened in ...g the area served ...ntral Virginia Tuber... and Respiratory Dis... ...ociation is far behind ...mingling in comparison ...ained in 1971 at this ...ing concern about the response from local citizens to the annual appeal for support, M. Cleveland Jones, president said, "This is a busy time of year for everyone. However, we hope that our friends and neighbors will keep in mind the important work done with Christmas Seal funds.

"We cannot hope to eliminate tuberculosis or control the rapid increase of emphysema cases without the public's help.

A contribution to Christmas Seals shows concern for the respiratory health of our community.

"Great strides have been made in improving the health of our residents by the Central Virginia Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association. We can't afford to lose the ground we have gained, but without the help of local citizens it will be impossible to fund programs in research, professional education, or public health education."

Mr. Jones went on to say, "I'm using Christmas Seals on all holiday mail as a reminder that there is still much to be done to help respiratory disease patients. The use of Seals and a contribution will ensure another year of progress in the work done by the Central Virginia Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association."

PAMPLIN

The Pamplin United Methodist Church will hold a New Year's Service Sunday night December 31st at 11:00 P.M. Slides of the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Gemany will be shown. Following the slides presentation of the Lord's supper will be observed in the Upper Room. All churches are invited to attend.

The Christmas Cantata "The Will Always Be A Christmas" will be presented at the Elon Baptist Church Sunday December 24th, at 11 a.m. This cantata will be presented by the combined choirs of Elon Baptist and Rocks Baptist churches under the direction of Mrs. J. M. Cobb, Jr., and Mrs. L. C. Elder, Organist. The same program will be presented at Rocks Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Inge left this week to spend Christmas with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Diekman and family at Rogers, Ark.

Mrs. H. W. Coleman attended the D.A.R. meeting last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Richard F. Hawkins, Lynchburg.

Miss Flora Belle Williams entered the Medical Care Center on Landover Place last Thursday after undergoing surgery at Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Mr. Alston Davis returned to his home in Arlington last week after a visit with his sister Miss Merle Davis.

Mrs. Ella Baughan after visiting friends in Farmville during Christmas will be with Mrs. S. D. Horner, Crewe, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. James Green and family spent last Sunday with Mrs. Annie Green at The Cobbs Home for the Aged.

Miss Donna Smith of William and Mary College arrived home last Saturday for Christmas vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall Driskill of Darlington Heights left this week to spend the Christmas holidays in Baltimore, Md. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dunnavant of Townsen, Md. will be hostess for a reception on Saturday night for the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Driskill.

Mrs. Rene Speer after a visit with relatives, will join her husband from Florida in Richmond on Dec. 21 and will spend the Christmas holidays in New York.

Miss Martha Williams left Monday to spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Savitz in Columbia, S. C.

Mrs. L. N. Ligon and Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dudley had a very pleasant surprise last Sunday. Mrs. Ligon's sons and families and her brother came for the day. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. James G. Ligon, J. G. Ligon, Jr., Leslie N. Ligon, III and Miss Sandra Pheips of Raleigh, N. C., Mr. and Mrs. L. Newton Ligon of Farmville, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ligon, II and Mr. Fred O. Guthrie of Lynchburg.

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Do It Better

GREETINGS
To our friends and neighbors, all best wishes for holiday happiness.

Sleepy Hollow Trailer Court
SPOUT SPRING, VIRGINIA

We wish you Merry Christmas

Best wishes for a holiday season filled with happiness and good cheer. And sincere thanks for your patronage.

GEORGE'S SNACK BAR
Jerry and Rufina George
We will be closed December 24 & December 25
Confederate Blvd., — Appomattox, Va.

Open Every Night For Your
Merry Christmas Shopping

MARSHALL'S DEPT. STORE

Panty Hose Special 79¢
REGULAR $1.00